

ST. ELMO PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Presbyterian Church in America

Our purpose is to know, live out of, and proclaim
the wonder of God's grace in Jesus.



October 20, 2024

Rev. Daniel Wells, Pastor

4400 St. Elmo Avenue • Chattanooga, TN • 37409
423-821-1424

<http://www.stelmopres.org>

**This Week at
St. Elmo Presbyterian Church and Community
October 20, 2024
and Live streaming on YouTube
October is CLERGY APPRECIATION MONTH!**

Today

9:15am Sunday School for All
10:30am Worship Service
6:00pm Youth Group meets — Contact Brad Roberts

Monday October 21

7:00pm Boy Scouts meet — Contact Ed Sunder or Mark Slavovsky

Tuesday October 22

10:00am Women's Bible Study and Prayer — Contact Amy Daugaard or Shelley Madueme

Wednesday October 23

7:00pm Wednesday Night Prayer Group meets — Contact Carol or Jim Wildeman
7:00pm Flintstone Small Group meets — Contact John or Kathy Tucker

Thursday October 24

7:30pm Session meets — Contact any Elder

Saturday October 26

10:00am Women's Ensemble practice
9:00am Church Workday until 1:00pm

Sunday School Nursery

October 20 Ashley Lesondak and Amy Daugaard
October 27 Ellie Potter and Lauren Sims

Worship Service Nursery

October 20 Diane Reichmann and Gwen and Tirzah Macallister
October 27 Shelley Madueme and Kedric Webster

Little Lambs

October 20 Glen and Becky Wieldraayer
October 27 Beth Ann Green and Carol Wildeman



The Advent and Christmas choir will practice on Saturdays, beginning November 9th.
We hope to sing during the Sundays of Advent. Everyone is welcome.
Choir practice is at 9:00 for 1 hour.

Upcoming

Friday, November 1-3 HS Fall Retreat
December 1 PCA Pastor and Widows' Relief Fund taken up
December 8 Annual Christmas Party @5:00pm
December 21 St. Elmo Stroll and Luminaria from 5:00pm to 9:00pm

FINANCE UPDATE fro October 20, 2024

2024-2025 General Fund through September 2024

Year to date General Fund revenue	\$56,314
Year to date budget	<u>75,000</u>
Contributions deficit year to date	<u>(\$18,686)</u>

Deacons' Fund through September 2024

Deacons' Fund 7/1/2024	\$38,781
Year to date Deacons' Fund contributions	778
Year to date Deacons' Fund expenditures	<u>(4,742)</u>
Deacons' Fund 9/30/2024	<u>\$34,817</u>

“On Christ’s glory I would fix all my thoughts and desires, and the more I see of the glory of Christ, the more the painted beauties of this world will wither in my eyes and I will be more and more crucified to this world. It will become to me like something dead and putrid, impossible for me to enjoy.” - John Owen

Prelude

Announcements

Musical Preparation

JESUS WELCOMES US

Greeting

Call to Worship

Hear my cry, O God, listen to my prayer; from the end of the earth I call to you when my heart is faint.

Lead me to the rock that is higher than I, for you have been my refuge, a strong tower against the enemy.

Let me dwell in your tent forever! Let me take refuge under the shelter of your wings!

For you, O God, have heard my vows; you have given me the heritage of those who fear your name. (Psalm 61)

Invocation

Hymn of Praise: “All Creatures of Our God and King” (#115)

JESUS RECONCILES US TO HIMSELF

“If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. But let none of you suffer as a murderer or a thief or an evildoer or as a meddler. Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in that name. For it is time for judgment to begin at the household of God; and if it begins with us, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God?” - 1 Peter 4:14-17

Silent Prayer of Confession

Song of Confession: “My Worth is Not in What I Own” (Rejoice! #75)

Assurance of Pardon

“But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.” - 1 Peter 2:9-10

Hymn of Assurance: “Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder” (see p.5)

JESUS RECEIVES OUR GENEROSITY

Offering of Gifts and Thanksgivings

Doxology

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow! Praise Him all creatures here below!

Praise Him above ye heavenly Host! Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! Amen!

Covenant Children’s Lesson

3 and 4 year-olds may go downstairs to Little Lambs

JESUS INTERCEDES FOR US

Intercessory Prayer & Lord’s Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name,

Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven,

Give us this day our daily bread,

And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors,

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil,

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

JESUS SPEAKS HIS LOVE TO US

Prayer of Illumination

Reading of the Word: Daniel 7:1-28

Preaching of the Word: "Exiles in Babylon // Part 8 - Four Against One" (Rev. Daniel Wells)

JESUS HEARS OUR PLEDGE OF FAITH

Confession of Faith

"Although the work of redemption was not actually wrought by Christ till after his incarnation, yet the virtue, efficacy, and benefits thereof were communicated unto the elect, in all ages successively from the beginning of the world, in and by those promises, types, and sacrifices, wherein he was revealed, and signified to be the seed of the woman which should bruise the serpent's head; and the Lamb slain from the beginning of the world; being yesterday and today the same, and forever." (Westminster Confession of Faith VIII.6, 1647)

JESUS SEALS HIS LOVE TO US

Invitation to the Table

Prayer of Consecration

Sursum Corda

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks unto the Lord.

It is fitting and right to do so.

People of God, as you come to the table, what do you proclaim?

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come back again.

The Bread ("Jesus, What a Friend for Sinners" #498, 1st & 2nd Stanzas)

The Cup ("Jesus, What a Friend for Sinners", 3rd & 4th Stanzas)

Prayer of Thanksgiving

JESUS SENDS US WITH HIS BLESSING

Hymn of Departure: "Jesus, What a Friend for Sinners" (5th Stanza)

Benediction



Please take this with you to pray for these individuals and groups this week:

- Colleen Stevens
- Kathleen Stevens
- Darrell and Margaret Stewart
- Virginia Strom

- The Fellowship Ministry Group
- David and Lisa Fish: USA/Uganda
- Widows' Harvest Ministries
- RUF-UTC: Davis Mooney

- Our U.S. Senators
- The Persecuted Church in CHINA (19)

- Pray for our faithful witness to our neighbors

Ukraine- <https://voice-of-ukraine.com>
With winter fast approaching in Ukraine, Russian forces are targeting civilian power sources. The Ukrainian power grid is heavily reliant on Soviet-era infrastructure, specifically autotrans-formers, and is difficult to repair when damaged. Slavic Gospel Association's (SGA) Eric Mock says they are ramping up their Heat and Hope program in Ukraine, just in time.
"Even as we speak, we are currently moving generators into churches," says Mock.

- Israel

Let Us Love And Sing And Wonder

Words by John Newton

Music by Laura Taylor

B \flat F Gm

Let us love and sing and won - der, let us praise the Sav -
 Let us love the Lord who bought us, pit - ied us when en -
 Let us sing though fierce temp - ta - tion threat - ens hard to bear
 Let us won - der, grace and jus - tice join and point to mer -
 Let us praise and join the cho - rus of the saints en - throned

4 E \flat F B \flat F

- ior's name, he has hushed the law's loud thun - der,
 - e - mies, called us by his grace and taught us,
 us down, for the Lord, our strong sal - va - tion,
 - cy's store; when, through grace, in Christ our trust is,
 on high; here they trust - ed him be - fore us;

7 Gm E \flat Gm

he has quenched Mount Si - nai's flame. He has washed us with his blood,
 gave us ears and gave us eyes. He has washed us with his blood,
 holds in view the con - queror's crown. He who washed us with his blood,
 jus - tice smiles and asks no more. He who washed us with his blood,
 now their prais - es fill the sky. Thou hast washed us with thy blood,

10 E \flat Gm E \flat Gm

he has washed us with his blood, he has washed us with his blood,
 he has washed us with his blood, he has washed us with his blood,
 he who washed us with his blood, he who washed us with his blood,
 he who washed us with his blood, he who washed us with his blood,
 thou hast washed us with thy blood, thou hast washed us with thy blood,

14 E \flat F B \flat

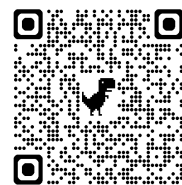
he has brought us nigh to God.
 he pre - sents our souls to God.
 soon will bring us home to God.
 has se - cured our way to God.
 thou art wor - thy, Lamb of God.

High School Fall Retreat: Nov 1 - 3, 2024

High school Fall Retreat sign-ups are now open!

Sign up to participate in a fun-filled weekend with other PCA area churches at Camp Vesper Point. The cost is \$135. Use the QR code to register via Google forms. The payment link will be included in the form.

Contact Brad Roberts with any questions.



Widows' Harvest Ministries

Contact: Lisa Eames

Thank you for your faithful support of Widows Harvest Ministries, SEPC! We are grateful for you. Thank you, as well, for choosing to support Widows Harvest Ministries with proceeds from the St Elmo Feast Day. We know you have many worthy causes to support and we appreciate your care for widows in our community.

Please join us in praising God

1. that Joshua Atieno, Dir of Widows Harvest Africa, is slated to return home from Canada in early December following his treatment for throat cancer.
2. Joyce Fears, leader of the Tuesday prayer meetings is recovering well from sciatica
3. old members and new visitors are joining in the prayer meetings
4. 6 groups have offered holiday gifts or events for the widows
5. Busy Saturdays and some weekdays with volunteers serving with Tim English in home repairs
6. Relief for widows and spiritual growth for all involved!

We covet your prayers for faithfulness as we follow God's call on our lives, for ongoing support and care of widows and for His Kingdom to come.

Pray for the Persecuted Church in CHINA (19)

SMUGGLING BIBLES IN CHINA: IS IT STILL NECESSARY?

Source: MNN, October 10, 2024

Back in the 1980s, there was a big push for smuggling Bibles into Communist China to meet the needs of believers there. But is Bible smuggling still necessary in China today?

Rev. Jason Woolford, President of *Mission Cry*, says, "You look at the restrictions that the [Chinese] government has on the Bible, the amount of printing that they allow...of the Bible, with much oversight, is about 150,000 copies annually. "So, can you imagine the billions of people there that are waiting or wanting the Bible and are in secret sharing one page of the Bible amongst each other? There is a desperate need."

Mission Cry works with Chinese nationals to smuggle in Bibles from Hong Kong. These local believers have good scores on China's social scoring system and can travel within the country. They are willing to risk it all for access to more copies of God's Word.

Woolford says, in Hong Kong currently, "There are 6,000 Bibles. We're purchasing those and we're bringing our folks back down from the north and bringing them into Hong Kong. Then yet again, they will be risking their life and everything that they have to smuggle these Bibles back into Communist China, into the thick of the wickedness of it to those that have no Bible and/or are secretly underground.

"We know that every time that a book is given to somebody, over its life cycle it will be read by 20 people. So, you take that 6,000 and times it by 20, that's 120,000 people that will have heard the Word of God through this operation." Woolford adds, "My hope is that people will pray for our team. Pray for them [who] are willing to risk all to do this.

"Pray for the rest of the funds to come in for the purchase of these Bibles, and then also the money that we're paying too for our team to bring them down their travel expenses and send them back." 🙏🙏

David and Lisa Fish USA/UGANDA

Praise for

- A little seven-year-old girl learning to walk for the first time with leg braces
- adult women learning to read and write their names for the first time
- a classroom building in progress to be used for a sewing ministry
- and the testimony of the women's Bible study group resolving conflicts working together in unity

Prayer for These Items

1. Finish the tailoring classroom building and bathrooms: \$10,000
2. Build a house for H, a believer who needed a new place due to her faith: \$5,000
3. Educational Scholarship for Lele \$3,500 (See previous email for details)
4. Christmas party and gifts helping with basic needs for 300 women in Buwundo Bible study \$9,000 (This gift helps these women with rice, flour, soap and other necessities to help provide for their families during the holidays at one of the most expensive times of year.)
5. Sewing machines for women who complete the tailoring course to begin their own business \$2,000
6. Travel expenses for me to go and check in with ministry leaders \$4,000
7. Additional end of the year expenses (Christmas bonuses and gifts for volunteers who are helping lead the women's ministry) \$2,000



Save the Date: Saturday, December 21, 2024

Fourth Annual St. Elmo Luminaria Stroll

55th St. & St. Elmo Ave from 5-9pm

Games on SEPC's Side Lawn!
For more information watch the
neighborhood email list and/or
contact Beth Ann Green.

SEPC Church Workday Saturday 10/26 from 9:00am-1:00pm

Young and old, skilled and unskilled, please join us for church workday on Saturday, October 26, from 9:00 till Noon. We will have a fun time fellowshiping while we work together to improve SEPC facilities inside and out.

- Inside we will be deep cleaning several areas including bathrooms, the kitchen and nursery. We hope to have several window cleaners since we haven't cleaned windows in a while. We will also be patching a hole in a sheetrock wall, and cleaning white boards.
- Outside we will be doing a moderate amount of weeding, mulching, and a trimming. A couple of skilled trimmers are needed to "feather" the evergreens next to the playground.

Please bring: cleaning tools/supplies, step ladders for window washing, and yard tools including hedge clippers, loppers, pruning shears, weed digging tools, garden and leaf rakes, leaf blowers, several tarps for moving leaves, and brooms for removing spider webs. A couple of shovels, pole trimmers, and pole saws will be needed too.

Thank you to those who can come to serve!

Don Houston and the Building and Grounds Ministry Group

Exiles in Babylon

Wisdom From Daniel and His Friends

Four Against One (Daniel 7:1-28)

Daniel 7:1-28 NIV 1984

¹In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon, Daniel had a dream, and visions passed through his mind as he was lying on his bed. He wrote down the substance of his dream. ²Daniel said: "In my vision at night I looked, and there before me were the four winds of heaven churning up the great sea. ³Four great beasts, each different from the others, came up out of the sea. ⁴"The first was like a lion, and it had the wings of an eagle. I watched until its wings were torn off and it was lifted from the ground so that it stood on two feet like a man, and the heart of a man was given to it. ⁵"And there before me was a second beast, which looked like a bear. It was raised up on one of its sides, and it had three ribs in its mouth between its teeth. It was told, 'Get up and eat your fill of flesh!' ⁶"After that, I looked, and there before me was another beast, one that looked like a leopard. And on its back it had four wings like those of a bird. This beast had four heads, and it was given authority to rule. ⁷"After that, in my vision at night I looked, and there before me was a fourth beast terrifying and frightening and very powerful. It had large iron teeth; it crushed and devoured its victims and trampled underfoot whatever was left. It was different from all the former beasts, and it had ten horns. ⁸"While I was thinking about the horns, there before me was another horn, a little one, which came up among them; and three of the first horns were uprooted before it. This horn had eyes like the eyes of a man and a mouth that spoke boastfully. ⁹As I looked, "thrones were set in place, and the Ancient of Days took his seat. His clothing was as white as snow; the hair of his head was white like wool. His throne was flaming with fire, and its wheels were all ablaze. ¹⁰A river of fire was flowing, coming out from before him. Thousands upon thousands attended him; ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him. The court was seated, and the books were opened. ¹¹"Then I continued to watch because of the boastful words the horn was speaking. I kept looking until the beast was slain and its body destroyed and thrown into the blazing fire. ¹²(The other beasts had been stripped of their authority, but were allowed to live for a period of time.) ¹³"In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man, coming with the clouds of heaven.

He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence. ¹⁴He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all peoples, nations and men of every language worshiped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed. ¹⁵"I, Daniel, was troubled in spirit, and the visions that passed through my mind disturbed me. ¹⁶I approached one of those standing there and asked him the true meaning of all this. "So he told me and gave me the interpretation of these things: ¹⁷"The four great beasts are four kingdoms that will rise from the earth. ¹⁸But the saints of the Most High will receive the kingdom and will possess it forever—yes, for ever and ever.' ¹⁹"Then I wanted to know the true meaning of the fourth beast, which was different from all the others and most terrifying, with its iron teeth and bronze claws—the beast that crushed and devoured its victims and trampled underfoot whatever was left. ²⁰I also wanted to know about the ten horns on its head and about the other horn that came up, before which three of them fell—the horn that looked more imposing than the others and that had eyes and a mouth that spoke boastfully. ²¹As I watched, this horn was waging war against the saints and defeating them, ²²until the Ancient of Days came and pronounced judgment in favor of the saints of the Most High, and the time came when they possessed the kingdom. ²³"He gave me this explanation: "The fourth beast is a fourth kingdom that will appear on earth. It will be different from all the other kingdoms and will devour the whole earth, trampling it down and crushing it. ²⁴The ten horns are ten kings who will come from this kingdom. After them another king will arise, different from the earlier ones; he will subdue three kings. ²⁵He will speak against the Most High and oppress his saints and try to change the set times and the laws. The saints will be handed over to him for a time, times and half a time. ²⁶But the court will sit, and his power will be taken away and completely destroyed forever. ²⁷Then the sovereignty, power and greatness of the kingdoms under the whole heaven will be handed over to the saints, the people of the Most High. His kingdom will be an ever-lasting kingdom, and all rulers will worship and obey him.' ²⁸"This is the end of the matter. I, Daniel, was deeply troubled by my thoughts, and my face turned pale, but I kept the matter to myself."

Who's Afraid of Apocalyptic Literature?

1. Image-Driven
2. More About Big Picture (not the tiny details)
3. Meant to Bring Comfort to the Afflicted
4. A Philosophy of History

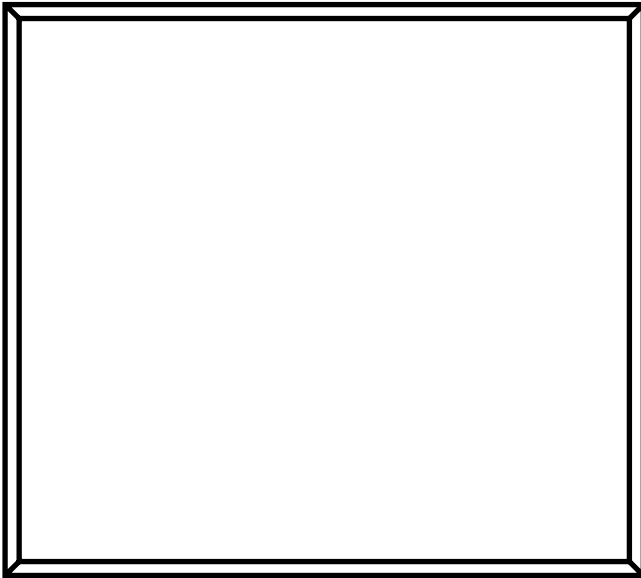
Jesus loves(!) Daniel 7:13-14. (Matt 9:6; 12:8; Matt 16:13-16; Mark 8:31; 14:61-62; Luke 19:10; John 3:13)

1. Does anything alarm you about Daniel 6, just as Daniel was alarmed? (7:28) How does this apocalyptic vision give you the 'spooks'?
2. Where does the comfort of this apocalyptic vision come into play?
3. What does the Son of Man want us as his church to do in light of this apocalyptic vision? (Matt 28:18-20)

Sermon Notes for Kids Today is _____

Who is the preacher today? _____

What is the scripture for today?



God's kingdom
is one that will
never be
destroyed.

My favorite songs today:

What was the end of the explanation about Daniel's vision?



Find each of the capitalized words from the verse in the word search below.

“But the SAINTS of the MOST HIGH will RECEIVE the KINGDOM and will POSSESS it FOREVER – YES, for EVER and ever.”

D	A	F	M	Y	E	S	S	E	S
K	D	M	O	P	H	N	V	R	P
S	I	C	S	R	E	I	C	S	O
A	D	N	S	C	E	K	G	E	S
I	N	T	G	C	I	V	E	H	S
N	G	I	E	D	C	I	E	V	E
T	O	R	I	M	O	S	T	R	S
S	U	E	V	E	R	M	O	T	S



pray WITH US FOR COVENANT COLLEGE!

1. Praise God for a strong incoming class of over 300 students
2. Request that the Lord bless us with more missionally fit students
3. Pray for our leadership, faculty, and staff to be unwavering in their faith
4. Lift up President Voyles as he shoulders pressure and expectations
5. Pray that Christ truly be shown preeminent in all things

The College of the PCA

Welcome to St. Elmo Presbyterian Church pca

Sunday School for Children and Adults

Sunday School begins at 9:15am. Adults meet in the Adult Sunday School room downstairs and kindergarten through youth group begin in the Fellowship Hall for snacks before proceeding to their rooms in the Sunday School wing. Sunday School breaks for the summer months.

Little Lambs

Children from 3 through 4 years old can attend their own worship service downstairs after the offering is taken.

Nursery Available

Nursery is available during Sunday School and worship for babies and for toddlers until they are old enough for Little Lambs. If you can help us in our nursery, please contact: Lydia Mayberry. Also if you have any questions, please contact Lydia Mayberry.

Sign up to volunteer in the nursery at: stelmopres.org. Click on "Connect-Grow-Serve" then "Nursery..." then scroll down to Sign up for "Sunday Nursery...".

You can also go to: <https://tinyurl.com/yp8trcc>

High School and Middle School Youth Group

Youth Group meets Sunday nights from 6:00pm-8:00pm except for the first Sunday of each month.

Christian Education Staff/Volunteers Contact Information

- Nursery Director: Lydia Mayberry
lydiakarstin@gmail.com
- Director of Youth and Children's Ministry:
Brad Roberts: brad.k.roberts@gmail.com



Online donations/offerings:

You can use this QR code or you may go to -
<https://tinyurl.com/mr7h9e89>

Past Sermons

Sermons online: <https://soundcloud.com/SEPC4400/sets>

Calendar online: www.stelmopres.org/events



Find us on Facebook:

St. Elmo Presbyterian Church - pca

<https://www.facebook.com/StElmoPresPCA>



To join the St. Elmo Presbyterian Church Email List:

1. Go to: <https://tinyurl.com/3hpcnxju>
2. Enter your email address in the gray box
3. Enter your name in the gray box
4. Password is optional
5. Click "Subscribe" and you will be added to the list. You will receive an email with directions for sending an email to the list and also unsubscribing. If you have difficulty signing on, please email Jay Green at

Parking

*Please do not park in front of driveways, or IN driveways, or in front of garages.
Please try to park on the side streets and not on St. Elmo Avenue (painted bike lanes).*

Also, park to the right of the road (in the direction you are going) so that you are not ticketed by the police.

Permission to print music and lyrics: CCLI#418158